
Application No.: 10/686123

Case No.: 58659US002

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended are respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the substance of dependent claims 2 and 4 while additionally making clear that the projections are on a face of the strands and the strands and the projections are integral extrusion formed elements. None of the prior art references teach or suggest a backing of this type.

The backing in Currie is really meltblown layer 54. The meltblown layer 10 is an abrasive layer formed of course, shot-laden meltblown fibers laid on a spunbond backing 14. Together these two layers form projecting elements, which are created by pin and apertured rollers punching holes into the meltblown/spunbond laminate.

In Schortmann et al. the backing is a reticulated foam. There are no strands extending in any direction. No spaces or separation between strands. No fibers in the space between the separated strands. In Schortmann et al. it is stated that some of the foam cell walls are destroyed in the hydroentangling process but in order to have fibers on both sides of the foam backing it is necessary to place two separate nonwoven webs on either side of the foam (Col. 4, lines 20-34 and Col. 5, lines 11-15). The fibers on one face are just impacted into the foam cell structure. Claim 1 as amended features individual fibers of a single fibrous substrate be on both sides of the backing. This is clearly not taught by Schortmann et al. Claim 1 also requires strands that have separation and fibers in this area of separation, clearly not in Schortmann et al.

Shizuno et al. has a backing formed from a network sheet 2. This network sheet can be a net as shown in Figure 3 (Col. 3, lines 23-25 and lines 48-57) or a perforated film (Col. 3, lines 59-65). The sheet laminate is designed as a dust cloth not as a material to clean floors as is the Schortmann et al. material. As dust collection is the only desired use, projections for cleaning grooves, as in Schortmann et al. would not be required. In fact projections could create problems by disrupting the dust, e.g., like sweeping a floor with a broom. In any event there is no teaching or suggestion in Shizuno of strands having projections.

Kacher also does not teach or disclose strands having projections.

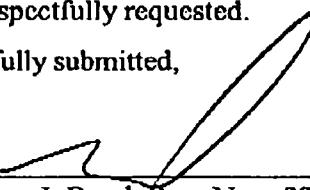
The references taken alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest a cleaning sheet having the features of the claimed cleaning sheet.

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In view of the above, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be in order and such is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

By: 

William J. Bond, Reg. No.: 32,400
Telephone No.: (651) 736-4790

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833